

January 27, 2012

My name is Sue Turnbull and I have had the privilege of having four of my children attend Southwestern Middle School from 1991 – 1999. They say it takes a village to raise children...and thanks to many, they have all since graduated from college...Engineering School, Medical school, Physician Assistant School and the youngest is currently attending Physical Therapy School. I am most thankful for the teachers at Southwestern for their above and beyond dedication and their undeniable attitudes towards seeing that each child had the opportunity to a quality education. I enjoyed volunteering at Southwestern, which allowed me to see first hand that the children were made accountable for their actions, yet rewarded for good behavior and grades. They rewarded not only for above average grades, but for above average effort as well, giving each child a chance to succeed.

I would like to extend a special thank you to a few teachers that immediately come to mind during the time my children were part of the Southwestern Family.

Thank you Mr. Don Tutt, for the stability you gave to Southwestern and your wonderful way with all the students.

Thank you to Mrs. Mary Kay Smith for your amazing dedication and incredible creativity in the Art room.

I would like to thank Mrs. Rosalie Tosh for the solid education and sound values she brought to the classroom. Mrs. Tosh began teaching our children in kindergarten, several in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and then went on to teach them in middle school as well.

A very special thank you to the late Mrs. Barbara Yarrington, for her endless hours of dedication and the excellent math skills she was able to pass along to our kids. I'm convinced they would not be where they are today without Mrs. Yarrington's math instruction.

And finally, a very special thanks to Ms. Barbara Raines. While at Southwestern, Ms. Raines developed a "work your way to Washington DC Program" that was huge benefit to many middle school kids and offered significant life lessons as well as education. She has been extremely instrumental in the success of two of my children in the medical field as well as supportive to all of them in their life growth. Ms. Raines has not only mentored, but has gone out of her way long after the Southwestern days to see that she was available should they need help in their career paths and gave her time generously.

Thank you Southwestern Teachers and Staff for continuing to touch the lives of our future!